



June 1999

The Army Medical Specialist Corps

Medallion



Volume 11, Issue 1

Colonel L. Sue Standage
Chief Army Medical Specialist Corps

Transitions

As the Summer Medallion goes to print, I'm reminded of all the transitions that occur during this season. *From the Corps Office* – (including associated Corps / AMEDD Immaterial Positions) these are assignment changes: LTC Steven Ord (65B) (APPD) to Madigan Army Medical Center, WA. MAJ(P) Maria Worley (65C) (SP Executive Fellow) replaces LTC Ord. CPT Vickie Connolly (65D) replaces MAJ(P) Worley. CPT Connolly, Assistant to the Corps Chief, is being replaced by CPT James (Sunny) Mills (65B), currently the Chief, Physical Therapy at Ft. Lee, VA. CPT Mills arrives in late July 1999.

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*****News Flash*****

The deadline for this year's LTHET applications has been extended. See page 18 for details!

From FORSCOM Headquarters, LTC Ricky Joseph (65A) retires and MAJ(P) Frances Finnegan (65C) assumes the AMSC Staff Officer position. MAJ Teresa Dillon (65C) arrives at the Combat Development Directorate, as the AMSC Staff Officer, AMEDD C&S in August 1999 (this position has been vacant).

At USAREC, LTC Debra Berthold (65C) relinquishes command of the 2nd AMEDD Recruiting Detachment and moves to USAREC Ft. Knox, KY as Chief of Operations, Health Services Division. Our congratulations again as LTC Berthold was the first AMSC to assume battalion level command. AMSC Recruiting Officer changes - 1st Brigade, MAJ Victor Yu (65C) is replaced by CPT Shelly Clyde (65C) and CPT Theresa Brininger (65A) is replaced by CPT Michael Robertson (65A).

My sincere thanks and appreciation goes out to all these officers for representing and serving the AMSC so well. I wish them all well in their new assignments and responsibilities!

I would also like to recognize our graduates from the senior military education level (MEL) schools and programs. LTC Joan Lyon (65C) Senior Service College, MAJ's Lovett Anyachebelu, Karen Geisler, Richard Meaney, William Wheeler (all 65Cs) from Command and General Staff College.

SP Corps Immaterial Positions/ Selections

One of the questions Corps members frequently ask is what are Corps Immaterial Positions and what is the selection process. The following is an FY99/00 list of AMSC (Corps) Immaterial Positions (immaterial means that any member of our Corps (A, B, C or D) may fill the position(s):

FORSCOM - AMSC Staff Officer (LTC), Fort McPherson, GA (A, B, C) and PA staff officer (65D).

USAREC - SP/DC/VC Program Manager (MAJ), Fort Knox, KY. There are also five Recruiting Counselors, one SP recruiter for each brigade and an XO position for a Recruiting Brigade. Locations are CA, TX, KY, GA, MD.

AMEDD Center & School - Fort Sam Houston, TX - Department of Health Education and Training SP/VC Program Manager (LTC); AMEDD Personnel Proponency Division (APPD) (LTC); Combat Development Directorate (MAJ); AMSC Executive Fellow (MAJ); and Assistant to the Corps Chief (CPT).

MEDCOM - Fort Sam Houston, TX - Corps Specific Branch Proponency Officer (CSBPO) (COL); Information Management (MAJ).

PERSCOM - Washington DC - Chief SP Personnel (LTC) with two assignments officers 1-A, B, or C) and 1-D. *These positions are considered nominative.*

To fill Corps immaterial positions, PERSCOM first identifies the projected vacancy. The Corps Chief and PERSCOM work together to determine specific eligibility requirements for the position. PERSCOM and each Assistant Corps Chiefs then work together to develop a list of qualified and interested candidates. (Remember that each Assistant Corps Chief must also weigh these positions against the total needs of their AOC. Due to mission requirements, in some cases not every Assistant Corps Chief may be able to submit a name for consideration).

Once a slate list is available, there is normally a discussion between PERSCOM, the Assistant Corps Chiefs and the Corps Chief. In some cases the MACOM may also review the slate. The final decision rests with the Corps Chief.

These decisions are based on a number of variables--needs of the AOC/Corps, best qualified officer(s), time on station requirements, MEL or CEL utilization tour if indicated, needs of gaining/losing organization, and rotation of AOCs.

As you can see there are many variables to every assignment. If you are interested in being considered for any of these positions in the future please identify yourself to PERSCOM with a follow up note to your Assistant Corps Chiefs. Remember that some of these positions may have MEL or CEL prerequisites so start planning early.

Retirement Recognition for AMSCs

We must provide and insure that our retiring officers and enlisted members receive appropriate recognition. PERSCOM routinely advises this office once officer retirements are processed and approved. We are not able to receive this same information regarding our NCO's.

WE NEED YOUR HELP IN TWO AREAS

1. Retirement Awards - This is the responsibility of the organization to which the officer/NCO is assigned. These sometimes seem to fall into a great abyss, or they are NOT processed/forwarded through the Awards Board in a timely fashion. Thus the individual is not recognized in a timely fashion for their contributions to the Army/AMEDD/AMSC. **I ask that Senior AMSCs at MTF's, Regional Medical Centers, Division PA's etc., be sensitive to this issue and take an active role in advising command channels of upcoming/pending retirements.**

2. Corps Recognition - Our office provides Corps

Continued on page 19

Colonel Bonnie DeMars
Chief, OT Section

Au Revoir...

On behalf of all the Army OTs I would like to begin this issue with a **BIG Thank You** to those OTs who are retiring this summer. Let us **applaud all of you** for your twenty and 20+ years of dedicated service, innovative practice, and team play. **Each of you** has contributed to the Army OT mission in numerous ways. **Each of you** has **your** "Army OT" story that I know is full and rich...and **each of you** has added to our "**OT legacy**" in the Army Medical Specialist Corps.

Many initiatives and exciting things have materialized for Army OT during your tenures: the 7H ASI, EFM programs, OTs in CSC units, deployments to places near & far to include El Salvador, Honduras, GITMO Bay, Desert Storm, Bosnia, Sri Lanka, JRTC and JTC, ergo specialization, and command opportunities. Your OT Chiefs have included COLs Carmona, Klavins, Swift, Bell, Daigle, and Riggan. You have seen positions created for OT at Forts Sill, Polk, Korea, CHPPM and USARIEM.

All of your efforts can never be measured for what they truly are and for the difference they have made. All of your contributions are appreciated!! We're glad you walked the path of life with us for awhile. We wish you Godspeed as you begin a new journey on a new path...

LTC Adulia Wright Her assignments included Chief at Forts Dix and Ord, and at Letterman, Brooke and William Beaumont Army Medical Centers.

LTC Ricky Joseph His assignments included staff therapist at Fort Dix and Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Chief at Forts Polk and Sill and Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Assistant Chief at Brooke and Eisenhower Army Medical Centers and AMSC staff officer at Forces Command.

LTC Pat Heeter Her assignments included staff therapist at Forts Benning and Knox and Chief at Forts Knox and Leonard Wood, the Burn Unit--

ISR and Heidelberg Army Hospital.

MAJ Rose Wright Her assignments included staff therapist at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Chief at Forts Carson, Jackson, Benning and Stewart and Fitzsimons Army Medical Center.

MAJ Robbie Courts Her assignments include staff therapist at Madigan Army Medical Center, Chief at Forts Hood, Jackson, and Heidelberg Army Medical Center.

I would also like to thank **CPT Julie Ferguson** and **1LT(P) Jacqueline Romero** for their dedicated service. They are leaving active duty to pursue different horizons. We wish you the best.

Extra, Extra...The OT Home Page

The home page has been upgraded. It now includes our most current Army OT Vision and Mission statements and our scope of practice. There are some minor changes that need to be made based on some feedback I received. Also, some useful links have been established. If there are other suggestions for links, let me know! Remember it is **your** home page, so let me know what information is most useful to you. We now have the capability to upgrade the page more frequently. So...keep the comments coming.

The information can be downloaded for use in programs to communicate what Army OT is and the services we provide. The vision, mission and scope presentations are available as Power Point slide presentations. If you have not received an individual copy, please let me know and I will forward them to you. I am also exploring getting some of this info made into a brochure format for distribution in your clinics.

OTs and Command

MAJ Steven Gerardi assumed command of the 528th Combat Stress Control Detachment at Fort Bragg on 25 Mar 99.

1LT(P) Stacie Caswell assumed command of Bravo Company, 61st Area Support Battalion on 18 Jun 99.

These are **firsts** for OT! Way to go!!

Special Assignments

1LT Jay Clasing currently serving as the Executive Officer at the 98th Medical Detachment (CSC), Fort Lewis, WA.

OT ADS Guidelines

I want to thank everyone for participating in this study. Your responses were most useful in helping develop the new OT ADS Guidelines. A special thanks goes to the OTs who provided the case studies and particularly **MAJ Mills** and **CPT Woods** for all their efforts to finalize the data and the guidelines.

If you have not received electronic copies for your clinic, please contact me. They are fairly hefty documents, so please be sure you have plenty of paper to download.

OT Task List Survey

Each clinic will soon receive an OT task survey. The data being solicited is very *critical* and *essential* so that an accurate task list can be developed for the N3s. LTC Luster is spearheading this project. Please complete the surveys and provide any additional feedback regarding this project.

Hails

Please help me in welcoming the newest members to Army OT.

1LT Florie Gonzales --Ft. Campbell

CPT Kurt Brower --BAMC

2LT Michaelle Barss --MAMC Intern

2LT Karen Lindquist --MAMC Intern

Congrats

I want to commend the following individuals on their recent achievements.

MAJ Bobbi Strutton-Amaker on her graduation from a Ph.D. program at Nova Southeastern University in January 99. She completed her academic program with a 96% cumulative average!

LTs Ted Chapman, Cathi Cardon and Amy Rothwell successfully completed their WRAMC internship.

CPT Willa Bobbitt who completes the CHPPM Ergonomics Residency in August 99.

CPT Andy Fabrizio who begins a program at the University of Indianapolis in Occupational Therapy with an emphasis in orthopedics.

MAJ Myrna Callison who begins the CHPPM Ergonomics Residency in June 99.

OT VTCs

The remaining OT VTCs in 99 are:

OT Quarterly: 10 Aug, 1400-1600 EDT

Senior OT: 7 Jul, 1400-1500 EDT

1 Sep, 1400-1500 EDT

Mark your calendars!!!!

It's that time of year...

Since this is the time for moves, I thought you might appreciate an update on OT assignments as of June 1st. Change those rosters...

LTC Stephen Luster -- BAMC

LTC Cassy Lewis -- FLW

MAJ Bobbi Strutton-Amaker -- WRAMC

MAJ Cyndi Hartman -- Ft. Stewart

CPT Willa Bobbitt -- Ft. Hood

CPT Yvette Woods -- Ft. Carson

CPT Jesus Rodriguez -- WBAMC

CPT Jeffrey Nelson -- Ft. Polk

CPT Teresa Brininger -- Wuerzburg

CPT Michele Kennedy -- Korea

CPT Carlos Stanford -- EAMC

CPT Randy Thomas -- ISR, Burn Unit

1LT(P) Michael Robertson -- Recruiting

1LT(P) Jon Verdoni --Ft. Sill

2LT Ted Chapman -- WRAMC

2LT Cathi Cardon -- Ft. Benning

2LT Amy Rothwell -- Ft. Jackson



Flash!!! Flash!!!!

There are some OTs out there who must be performing in unusual jobs, that is, if you go by the job titles on ORBs. Just what is a CBT OT or a CMF OT??!!!! Does it mean a combat OT or central managing facility OT?? How about surplus/excess personnel--does this mean you don't really have a job!???

Seriously, though, this is a problem. CBT and CMF are military essentiality codes and do mean something to the computer system, but it does not help board members when they are reviewing your military records. Duty titles should accurately reflect what your position is, whether it is chief, director, manager or staff therapist, etc. I ask that each of you check your ORBs for accuracy and completeness and then get over to your local MILPO to make any corrections. Feel free to contact PERSCOM or me for more guidance.

That's all for OT... "out here."

Please respond to the survey questions regarding the Medallion that appear in this issue on page 27!! ♦

***Congratulations
To
LTC Mary S. Lopez
Recipient of the
"1999 Joseph Lovell Award"***

This award is named for the first Army Surgeon General, a vigorous supporter of preventive medicine. It is awarded annually by the CDR, CHPPM and recognizes professional excellence, outstanding initiative, innovation and creativity

***Congratulations to the following individuals
who recently passed the COTA Exam:***

SGT Nathaniel Parsons	Ft Knox
SGT Jennifer Brown	Ft Campbell
SGT Craigreon Wallace	Ft Campbell
SGT Shaunda Payne	LRMC
SPC Robert Breed	Ft Campbell

OT Now on SMART

SMART, or Special Medical Augmentation Response Teams, were established at the direction of the Army Surgeon General. Occupational Therapy is part of the SMART (SM), the team whose focus is stress management. These teams have a primary role of providing rapid consultation to local providers and crisis intervention to persons that have been involved in a traumatic incident or natural disaster. Other members of the SMART (SM) include psychologists, social workers, psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, chaplains, and Behavioral Science NCO's (91X).

The SMART (SM) can be deployed in a variety of fashions: as an independent team to augment military mental health resources, as part of a larger disaster reaction team under the auspices of the Natural Disaster Medical System, or as a small team for consultation or augmentation of civilian resources. Their role would include providing services in command or organizational consultation, Critical Incident Stress Debriefings, or education services. Only limited, if any, actual mental health care would be provided as their primary role is to assess the mental health need and refer to local resources. It is an exciting opportunity for the Army to expand existing services in mental health assistance to military and civilian personnel, and for occupational therapy to demonstrate our part in providing these services. ♦

Colonel Rebecca Hooper
Chief, PT Section

For some reason, I'm finding it extremely difficult to write my input for the Medallion this time around. Part of me wonders what will be of interest to all of you...part of me feels like all I'm doing is repeating myself! Between VTCs and e-mail updates, we have so many more avenues of communication than we once did. In my book, the most important things that you must be aware of are the accomplishments of your fellow PTs and N9s, the initiatives that we as a section and as a Corps are pursuing, and the opportunities that are available to you as you chart your own career.

Accomplishments

The most recent good news that has crossed my desk is the successful completion of the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties (ABPTS) examinations for several of our therapists. To this point, I have been notified that the following officers passed the specialty certification in Orthopedic Physical Therapy: LTC Kathy Zurawel, MAJ John Stang, CPT(P) David Gohdes, CPT Danny Jayne, CPT Roger Behrman, LTC Jeremy Hutton, and CPT Lynne Morris. In addition, MAJ(P) Jane Freund passed the certification in Neurologic PT, MAJ Barbara Springer passed the Sports Medicine PT certification and MAJ Steve Layman passed the Geriatric PT Specialty certification.

The Sports Medicine Residency Program at West Point is now an APTA-credentialed residency program.

I recently received word of another Baylor-PT student research manuscript accepted for publication. The citation reads as follows: Petersen EJ, Irish SM, Miklaski SF, Lyons CL, Bryan JM, Henderson NE, Masullo LN: Comparison of three methods of measuring ankle swelling. In press with the Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy.

This time of year also brings the completion of

some of our training programs. The US Army-Baylor Graduate Program in Physical Therapy will be graduating 14 new therapists on 30 June 99.

The list of graduates includes:

LT Norman Ayotte
LT William Egan
LT David Feltwell
LT Daniel Fisher
LT Michael Garrison
LT Lance Gerber
LT Karlene Guffie
LT Brian Hatler
LT Lisa Hirn
LT Christine Hier
LT Jessica Kessler
LT Eldri Marshall
LT Elizabeth Painter
LT Gregory Pollman

Nearly simultaneously, CPT Allyson Pritchard will be completing her Sports Medicine Residency at West Point. Soon after, MAJ Thom Sutlive is scheduled to complete his Ph.D. at the University of Virginia. Both of these officers will join the faculty at the AMEDD Center and School. LTC Elise DeWit will receive her Masters degree from the University of Indianapolis and join the staff at BAMC. MAJ(P) Theresa Schneider will finish the didactic phase of the Baylor Health Care Administration program this summer and is scheduled to do her residency year in Bosnia. Congratulations to all of these individuals as they head to their new duty stations.

Congratulations also go to four of our family who will be retiring the summer. COL Jean Bryan will be retiring after serving on active duty and in the USAR for 26 years. COL Bryan will be especially missed at the AMEDD Center and School where her leadership and enthusiasm have maintained the US Army-Baylor Graduate Program in Physical Therapy at an all-time high level of excellence. During her tenure as Branch Chief and Program Director, the program was ranked the 11th "best" program in the United States for it's first ever rating. COL Bryan has served in a variety of clinical roles to include Fort Sill,

Okinawa, Fort McPherson, Fort Gordon, and Brooke Army Medical Center. Her research and teaching skills have provided an invaluable influence on the lives the vast majority of Army PTs.

LTC Keith Hauret has already turned over his clinic at Fort Jackson but will officially retire later this summer. LTC Hauret has done an outstanding job everywhere he has gone throughout his 23 years of service. His assignments span the globe from Fort Bragg on the East Coast to Letterman Army Medical Center and Madigan on the West Coast to SHAPE in Belgium. His leadership and organizational skills added greatly to the efficiency of the clinics at Fort Riley, Fort Campbell, and the closing of the facility at Fitzsimons. For the past three years, LTC Hauret has deftly guided the staff at Fort Jackson during a time of surprisingly increased demand from the training community. Our thanks and best wishes go to LTC Keith Hauret.

LTC Jim Heeter is retiring from Fort Leonard Wood after 20 years. LTC Heeter's other assignments have been varied and include Fort Benning, Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Myer, Fort Knox, and Heidelberg. His ability to lead clinics of every size has made him invaluable to Army PT, especially at posts where the Army trains new soldiers. LTC Heeter has always looked to the future and tried to make a difference. He participated fully in section and Corps initiatives to build better business processes and standards of care. We are all appreciative of his skills as a PT as well as his ability to lead and mentor young therapists and technicians.

MAJ Tracy Brudvig is retiring from William Beaumont Army Medical Center after 20 years. MAJ Brudvig has been the mainstay at WBAMC since 1995. Her clinical skills and managerial acumen have almost single-handedly kept that clinic going. MAJ Brudvig's assignments have been extremely varied. She began her career at Fort McClellan, moved into an instructor/clinical role at Fort Ben Harrison with the Army Fitness

School, traveled to Frankfurt where she directed the Exceptional Family Member Program, and then took over the clinic at Fort Knox prior to her final assignment at Fort Bliss. MAJ Brudvig is known to anyone who has ever worked with her or for her as a dedicated, hardworking, and exceptionally talented therapist. We will all miss her and wish her well.

Congratulations to MAJ Leo Mahoney.

MAJ Mahoney was recently selected to serve as the next Regimental Adjutant at the AMEDDC&S.

Finally, congratulations to CPT James Mills.

CPT Mills was selected as the new Assistant to the Corps Chief. Best of luck in your new position!

Initiatives

The "Ranger Study" at Fort Lewis is winding down. This project was designed and sanctioned by the United States Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARIEM) under the guidance and direction of MAJ Joe Creddon, 65D. Originally conceived by COL Joe Dettori (USA, Ret) and staffed by CPT Dan Norvell and a civilian tech, the gist of the study was to assess the implications of assigning an Army PT to the Ranger Battalion full time. Rangers were provided physical therapy evaluation and treatment in their local battalion area. The study was designed to cover a full 39-week training cycle and we are anxiously awaiting the outcome.

The 10th Mountain Division Surgeon at Fort Drum expressed an interest in studying the impact of assigning a PT to his staff. CPT Brian Boutilier, the Chief PT at Fort Drum will be developing a project to assess the value added for selected brigades at Fort Drum. This study will involve a temporary over-strength position at Fort Drum so that CPT Boutilier can function on the Division Surgeon's staff.

MAJ Joe Moore recently attended the Medical Force Protection (MFP) Integrated Concept Team (ICT). The ICT is one of a number of functional units at the Directorate of Combat and Doctrine

Development (DCDD). Inroads on this ICT (as well as the Hospitalization ICT) will hopefully help us position Army PTs in more visible and viable roles in deployment. Army PTs are providing a large percentage of the care provided in the deployed settings of Bosnia and the Sinai. Active participation in planning for future doctrine must capitalize on these experience and put us where we can promote readiness and provide timely care.

The Chiropractic Health Care Demonstration Project (CHCDP) was scheduled to end 30 September 1999. As of this writing, both houses of Congress have drafted legislative language to extend Chiropractic services for an additional year. These bills, once passed by both houses and agreed upon in committee, would extend the services at the current sites only. The issue of commissioning is still of great interest to the Chiropractic community. Nothing is final...I will keep you posted on further developments as they occur.

Opportunities

The deadline for application for Long Term Health Education and Training (LTHET) is 30 July. I encourage all those who are interested and qualified to apply. The opportunity to attend graduate school full time is a wonderful thing! I must remind you, selection to attend all of our programs included in LTHET (Masters, Ph.D. and residencies) is a board action. Because an official board process governs LTHET, if training seats open up at the last minute due to changes or deletions, substitutions may only occur if there are qualified individuals on alternate lists.

Other opportunities this summer include the ways in which we deal with the "summer crunch". PTs and 91BN9s alike are packing up and ETSing or PCSing around the world. For those of who may be choosing to switch to civilian clothes full time, may you have the best of luck in your new endeavors. On behalf of the PT Section and entire AMSC, thank you for your commitment to Army PT and we will miss you.

We all have the opportunity to communicate via e-mail with LT Tim Cass while he is deployed to Bosnia with the 10th CSH. His email address is casstim@hotmail.com. I'm sure he'd welcome hearing from his colleagues.

A special opportunity has presented itself for anyone who is bilingual in Spanish. COL Nancy Henderson recently traveled to Colombia where she was tasked to assess the rehabilitation needs of amputees. There is a possibility more similar missions will occur and COL Henderson is looking for therapists who can communicate in Spanish. Please let both of us know if you are qualified and interested. In addition, anyone interested in future missions to Sri Lanka should let me know immediately.

In closing, the summer is always challenging as we face fluctuating patient count, new staff orientation, and quite frankly, some days with not enough staff to accomplish the mission. I truly appreciate your efforts during these trying times...I've been there, done that, got the T-shirt. The opportunity for all of us is to come through the hard times with grace and a sense of humor. Thanks. ♦

*Congratulations to
Captain Janet Gangaway
Recipient of the
"1999 Rose in Excellence in Research Award"*

CPT Gangaway received this award for research performed while in LTHET at USC. The article was entitled, "The effects of patellar taping on stride characteristics and joint motion in subjects with patellofemoral pain". CPT Gangaway's co-authors were Powers CM; Landel R; Sosnick T; Mengel K; Cheney A and Perry J.

COL Richard Lynch
Chief, Dietitian Section

Congratulations

I'd like to congratulate our 1st class of dietetic interns under the US Military Dietetic Internship Consortium. This new structure approved by the American Dietetic Association allowed the US Army Dietetic Internship and the US Air Force Dietetic Internship to combine under one program effective 1 Aug 98. The BAMC and WRAMC interns are as follows: 2LTs Joe Frost, Robin (Gernhert) Jarrell, Susan Neely, Trisha Stavinoha, Heidi Weaver, Brenda White; 1LT Robie McMillan, 2LTs Molly Abraham, Julie Boyett, Andrew Brown and Leah Usher.

We extend to them our best wishes on their new assignments and wish them well on their registration exam. We also welcome our new 2000 class of dietetic interns who will be attending Officer Basic Training before they enter the training program. Finally, congratulations to 1LT Reva Rogers on successful completion of the EFMB!

NCOC

We are planning a Nutrition Care Operations Conference for 16-19 Aug 99 which will follow up on the conference we did last July 98. This year's conference will again have limited attendance and also evaluate the progress of the Dietitian's Strategic Plan Working Groups. My thanks goes to all those dietitians and 91Ms who participated this past year in the working groups. I know the work you did was over and above your regular duties. Your contributions are sincerely appreciated and will continue to have a significant impact on our future.

Retirements

Best wishes on the upcoming retirement for COL Kristin Harper who will leave the AMSC in September 1999 with 26 years in the Army. Kris has made significant contributions during her career and has had a broad range of key leadership positions in our corps. I thank her for her dedication and support and know she looks forward to seeing how civilian life is after the

Army. She will be missed.

ADA Meeting

Don't forget that our annual American Dietetic Association Meeting is in Atlanta, Georgia this year, 18-21 Oct 99. The meeting will be held in the Georgia World Congress Center with ADA Headquarters hotels being the Marietta Marquis and Atlanta Hilton. As in past years we will have a Joint U.S. Military Nutrition Symposium on 17 Oct 99 so plan to arrive on Saturday, 16 Oct 99. Registration forms for the symposium and information on our traditional Army Breakfast scheduled for Tuesday morning will be sent out in the near future. The US Air Force is the sponsor/host for our Military Dinner on Sunday evening, which is a change from our normal schedule. They are planning the dinner at Anthony's in Atlanta (see attached flyer, page 24) and will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

MNT

Briefings and coordination are ongoing in getting approval for Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) to become a TRICARE benefit. This has been a long and complex initiative requiring tri-service support and still has a ways to go but I am optimistic it will happen. LTC V. Thomas is our POC on this and she's doing a great job moving this issue through the bureaucracy.

Physical Fitness School

LT Kerry Davidson will be our first dietitian officially assigned to the US Army Physical Fitness School at Ft. Benning, GA. effective 21 May 99. Although the dietitians at Martin ACH have been providing nutrition support and services to the school for some time, the Fitness School now will have a full-time dietitian assigned.

Accreditation

The US Military Dietetic Internship Consortium finished their site visit from the Commission on Accreditation/Approval for Dietetics Education (CAADE) of The American Dietetic Association on 25 May 99. The surveyors were extremely complementary of our training program. The program was found in compliance with all

standards and commended with strengths in: military experiences and training; learning experiences and clinical rotations; availability of learning resources; and the competence and multiskilled abilities of the staff and preceptors. The BAMC and WRAMC staff particularly are to be congratulated along with all the other preceptors and sites that are involved in dietetic education. The final written report will not be available until Fall 99.

Assignments

Past Medallion contributors have addressed the issues of assignments, timing, career development and other associated topics. I know there can be frustrations when projected assignments don't work out. I'm thankful for your understanding of the limitations of our system and hope you recognize that our corps leadership is committed to making the best decisions for our organization and our officers. Because of our small AOC numbers we do not have the flexibility or options open to other corps. Finding the right person, at the right time, for the right position is oftentimes difficult. Frequently, the available pool of potential officers for specific vacancies narrows down to 1 or 2 individuals because of time on station constraints, schooling commitments, joint domicile program considerations, rank or skill requirements, etc.

Additionally, there are other factors that cannot be predicted or controlled such as compassionate assignments, outside influences, selection boards, etc. Please look towards the phone calls you get from PERSCOM for PCS options as opportunities for excelling not opportunities to avoid. I would ask that you continue to be understanding of the limitations in our system, be professional in carrying out your duties to the best of your ability and focus on your patients, staff, students or whoever your customers are. Although AOC 65Cs have many talents and can do many things, we have been recruited and trained to perform as dietitians and are expected to actively assume this role. Although we have many opportunities that are related or totally unrelated to dietetics, remember our profession is dietetics and nobody else in the Army can do our AOC work. The balancing act we do to fill all

vacancies and meet the mission requirements and still take advantage of opportunities is fraught with risks and tradeoffs. I would request you continue to be flexible and positive when you are asked to assume a new assignment or tasking. To those of you who have been disappointed in position assignments or felt you were disadvantaged, I would ask you to look objectively at the situation and put yourself in the position of those making the decision. Sometimes it takes time and distance to arrive at an understanding of why a decision was made. Oftentimes, not all of the information is available or can be made public knowledge. By putting yourself in someone else's shoes you become more empathetic, have a better understanding of the "burden of leadership" and develop an appreciation for other's challenges. ♦

EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGES AT THE AMEDD CENTER & SCHOOL

As many of you are aware, the AMEDD is converting from cmail to Microsoft Outlook Mail. The conversion is mostly complete here at the AMEDD Center & School. The following is a list of email addresses for individuals currently in the SP Corps Chief's offices.

LSue.Standage@amedd.army.mil
Bonnie.DeMars@amedd.army.mil
Vickie.Connolly@amedd.army.mil
Maria.Worley@amedd.army.mil

*The same man cannot well be skilled in
everything; each has his special excellence.*

*Euripides
Rhesus, circa 450 BC*

MAJ Louis H. Smith
Chief, Physician Assistant Section

Recognition

In the brief time since the last Medallion we have made progress on a number of issues. I would like to start by saying that any changes that occur are the efforts of not one person, but of the many PAs who have worked together to bring about a positive change. These include individuals like MAJ Rod Kuwamoto, whose contributions to the mission and vision statement were invaluable. Others include LTC Morrey, LTC Gorie, CPT Bean and CPT Doster at the PA Training Program without whom many of the positive changes that are occurring would not have happened. There are so many individuals that have made significant contributions and should be recognized, but there just isn't space to thank each one and every one. In future editions of the Medallion I will make an attempt to highlight some of the work that these individuals have done.

TSG's PA Recognition Award

The Surgeon General's Physician Assistant Recognition Award for 1999 was presented to CPT Anne M. Albert from Fort Leavenworth, KS. The official ceremony was held at the 20th Annual Society of Army Physician Assistants Conference in Fayetteville, NC. CPT Albert is commended for her hard work and dedication she has shown while promoting numerous health promotion and wellness programs at Ft Leavenworth. Our congratulations go out to CPT Albert for all of her efforts on behalf of Army PAs.

PA Inventory

The inventory of PAs on active duty will be greater than was expected by the end of the year. The original projections had us ending FY99 with just under 450 PAs, but with fewer than expected numbers of PAs retiring this has been revised up to about 465. Although many factors may have contributed to PAs deciding to remain on active duty, the anticipated pay raise for FY00 is considered to be the primary factor. Whatever the reason this is a welcome change to the losses we

have seen over the past several years, and gives all Army PAs out in the Line some breathing room. The authorized budgeted end strength for PAs in FY00 is 512, so this will mean less of a deficit than we had anticipated going into the new fiscal year. This translates into more PAs in the TO&E units, helping to taking some of the pressure off those who have had to cover for units without PAs. We will have to wait to see what next year brings as far as retirements and other losses are concerned, but I'm hoping that it will be similar to this year.

Interservice PA Program

We had projected putting 72 active duty Army students into the Interservice PA Program (IPAP) for 1999, but through some changes in the program we will have started '87 candidates by the final class in August. This is because we have been able to expand the physical size of the training program, thereby allowing an increase classroom space for each class start. This coupled with obtaining seats that would have gone unused by the Air Force and Navy will mean that we can significantly increase the number of active duty Army students for next year's class as well.

Putting qualified students into the IPAP is just the first hurdle that we have to face. Once we get them into the program, it is critical that they are successful in completing the training. In the past the active duty Army students have had an attrition rate of as high as 12%, but with the new prerequisites, (chemistry, A&P, algebra, psychology) it is hoped that this will drop to around 5%, that which the other services have been experiencing. Students who have not been successful in the program have experienced problems with chemistry, anatomy, physiology and math. In some cases, individuals come to the program with credit for these courses as a result of military training programs (91B, 91C, etc) and have still had significant academic problems. Because of this it will be necessary in future years to require prospective candidates to have in-residence credit for these course in order to be considered for attendance.

All of us know great medics and soldiers who would make ideal candidates for PA training. We

need to help these individuals who are interested in applying, by counseling them on courses of study they need to take, showing them how to prepare their application packets, and generally encouraging them. If you know of an individual who you would recommend for PA school, take the time to write them an appropriate strongly worded letter of recommendation. Follow this up by helping them with their letter of intent. As you are all aware, the letter or intent is in fact their interview with the selection board. A well-written letter of intent will convey to the board their reason for wanting to be an Army PA and can be a major factor in their being selected. Take time to read these letters and provide constructive comments on how the candidate can improve this document. Any letter of intent should be grammatically correct with no spelling errors.

Information on applying for PA school can be found at the following web site:

USAREC homepage
www.goarmy.com/med/paqual.htm Questions should be addressed to MAJ Pauline Gross at DSN 536-0386

Promotions

Every one of us would like to get promoted to the next grade, if for no other reason, than the pay raise that accompanies it. Keep in mind, that promotions beyond 1LT require a board action. Each of our records goes before a promotion board and must be selected in competition with the other SP records within that zone of consideration. This requires that each of us must ensure our records are complete and up-to-date. Unfortunately, that was not the case in the most recent Captains promotion board in April. Many of the records were missing key items that were required, the most notable being a DA photo. Without all required elements being in your records, to include a current DA photo, college transcripts, certificates of awards and decorations, your promotion packet is not complete. It is the individual PA's responsibility to ensure that this is accomplished. MAJ Jones at PERSCOM works very hard to make sure the promotion packets are complete, but it is up to the individual to ensure that all items are there.

If you are not sure that your records are up-to-date, go to your local personnel center and visit the officer records section. They will be able to provide you with a copy of your officer record brief (ORB), which you can then go over in detail. In most cases you will be able to update your records "on the spot" by presenting them with documentation of diplomas, transcripts, or certificates of awards.

Keep in mind that your ORB and microfiche should match. If you are not sure if items on your ORB have been included on your microfiche, you may request a copy of your fiche from the following email address:

Offrcds@hoffman.army.mil

Include your name, social security number, mailing address and what you are requesting (microfiche, ORB).

It is critical that you have **official** transcripts of all colleges or universities from which you have degree sent to PERSCOM to be included on your microfiche. The address to send these transcripts to is:

U.S. Army Total Army PERSCOM
ATTN: TAPC-PDI-S
200 Stovall Street
Alexandria, VA 22332-0479

It is critical that you get your records updated as soon as you can, and then continue to do so frequently during your career. The SP Branch at PERSCOM now has its own web page and can be reached at:

<http://www-perscom.army.mil/Opamsc/index.htm>

NCCPA Certification

As I mentioned during the last edition of the Medallion, national certification is a major issue. The vast-majority of Army PAs have their NCCPA certification and are successful in maintaining it. Unfortunately, we have a small number of PAs who have been unable to complete this necessary requirement. By October 1, 1999 all PAs must have met their certification requirements or risk losing their clinical privileges.

If any PA has their privileges revoked because of lack of certification, they are subject to elimination from the service. It may seem like an extreme measure, but keep in mind that one of the requirements for commissioning as a 65D is successful completion of the NCCPA national certifying examination.

PA Mission/Vision Statements

The following are the new mission statement and vision statement for Army PAs. They outline what we as Army PAs have been doing for many years. As many of you have heard me say, Army PAs are the primary health care providers for the Line soldiers. It is a job that we have successfully accomplished for over 25 years and will continue to do so for many years in the future.

PA Mission Statement

Force Sustainment through Leadership, Education and Quality Health Care for the Line.

PA Vision Statement

- Highly trained, multi-functional, multi-talented primary health care providers delivering quality health care services to all beneficiaries.
- The subject matter experts on Level I and Level II health care for the Line
- Leaders within the command structure dedicated to medical administration, education, training and health promotion arenas to ensure force multiplication for commanders
- Critical AMEDD team members supporting U.S. National and Military strategic policy by serving in combat, Operations Other than War (humanitarian assistance, peace keeping, nation assistance, and disaster relief) and peace time health care delivery.
- Dedicated medical professionals committed to the education and training of medical and non-medical personnel.
- Ensures timely medical management, referrals, sustainment, and evacuation of personnel of the Command.
- Visionary leaders that facilitate the health care management of the Line commander's soldiers by capitalizing on the opportunities available within

the U.S. Army health care delivery system.

Training

There are a number of centrally funded short courses that are available for FY00 through the AMEDDCS. For more information on any of these courses contact LTC Cancio at (210) 915-9428 or DSN 497-9428.

To apply you will need to submit a DA3838 to the following address:

Commander
AMEDD Center & School
Department of Health Education & Training
ATTN: MCCA (LTC Cancio)
1750 Greely Road,
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6122

COURSES

PA Readiness and Recertification Symposium
21-25 Feb 00
San Antonio, TX

European PA Refresher Course
8-12 Mar 00
Pommersfelden, GE (for PAs assigned to Europe)

Combat Casualty Humanitarian Missions Course
31 Jan – 4Feb 00
San Antonio, TX

Emergency Medicine Basic Skills Course (limited to 4 students per class)
18-29 Oct 99
Ft Sam Houston, TX

Madigan Army Medical Center
18-29 Oct 99
6-17 Mar 00
Ft Lewis, WA

Joint Operational Aeromedical Problems Course
Location and Date TBA

Current Concepts in Operational and Environmental Medicine
Location and Date TBA

Web sites of interest

RxFactStat is a free newsletter for prescribers and dispensers of pharmaceuticals.

It can be found at: <http://www.rxfactstat.com>

A great site for medical textbooks and assorted journals that is available to all Army PAs is at: <http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/medcom/medlinet>

After entering the WebSite scroll down to STAT references. Type army67 for user name. Type stat92 for password.

Choose Med Reference and you can pick for a number of different medical textbooks.

If anyone has a medical WebSite that will be of value to other Army PAs, please pass it on so that we can distribute it to the field.

The Knowledge Management Network

The PA's Passport to the Information Superhighway

Everyone recognizes the importance of having access to current up to the minute information and technology to make critical decisions necessary for success. Regardless of your position it is essential for each of us to be able to access and share the information we need to do the task at hand. The Knowledge Management Network is the Internet access that will allow us to access and share the information we need. It will also allow us to develop the type of information and the sharing of ideas that are pertinent to us as PA's. Read about the KMN as discussed in the other article presented in this issue.

GET REGISTERED!!

Once you are registered with KMN, register into the PA community, you will be given access by the community manager at KMN. You will find the Physician Assistant Community exists under Communities on the KMN homepage. Locate the Physician Assistant Program under programs, this is where you will register. It will take about 24 hrs to receive a confirmation that you are completely

registered. You can now go to Discussions on the drop down menu that will be presented from the Physician Assistant program menu. You will then get a page with a restricted Army PA discussion group. When you click on this discussion you are asking for permission to enter this group and must be given access. It is important to understand that access to the various discussions is under the control of the "Discussion Group Manager." Major Roderick Kuwamoto will give all active duty Army PA's access to the Army PA discussion group. Other discussion groups have been created that will help control the dissemination of information.

The KMN is here to stay. It is a system with a tremendous potential for the sharing of information, being able to locate people, gain access to ideas and data as well as keeping every PA informed on the current issues no matter where you are in the world. All this is possible if Pa's will use and develop the system for their needs. If you are having a problem getting on the KMN please contact MAJ Kuwamoto at 210 - 221- 9935.

In news from around the country

LTC Charles Gorie will be moving from Ft Sam Houston to Ft Lewis to take over as the Senior PA for I Corps at Ft Lewis WA.

LTC Tozier will complete his PhD in Education and report to Ft Sam Houston this fall to become a member of the faculty at the Interservice PA Program.

Also reporting to the schoolhouse this summer will be CPT Richard Walton who has spent the past two years as the Army PA at the White House. CPT Michael Summers is his replacement and is currently on board.

CPT Robert Cole will be arriving in July from Ft Stewart to be an instructor at the PA program.

CPT Rene Battista who has been an instructor at

the BAMC ER Residency Program will be moving to Ft Bliss TX this summer. CPT Mark Stevens from Ft Polk, will be her replacement.

CPT Ken Galfo, who has done such a great job as the ER residency instructor at Madigan is taking over as the senior Division PA at 4th ID at Ft Hood. CPT Tom Catalina will be replacing him.

CPT Gregory Goodwiler will take over as the 1st Cavalry Division Senior PA replacing CPT Tony Sadler who is retiring.

CPT Sam Verbeck, who has been the 10th Mountain Division senior PA is retiring this summer and CPT Oliverio Corchado will take over as the new senior PA.

CPT David Lindblad will be reporting to Ft Carson this summer to take over duties as the senior PA with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment.

Congratulations are in order to the graduates from the Emergency Medicine and the Orthopedic Residency Programs. Graduates and their follow on assignments are:

Emergency Medicine
BAMC

CPT Larry Harris - Madigan
CPT William Crawford - Ft Polk
CPT David Rios - Ft Benning
CPT Jerald Wells - Ft Riley

MAMC
CPT Sherry Womack - Ft Bragg
CPT Robert Monzingo - Ft Hood

Orthopedics
BAMC
CPT Joel Bachman – Korea

MAMC
CPT David Reinsch - Ft Riley
CPT Richard Villarreal - Ft Irwin

Retirements

Finally I would like to recognize those Army Physician Assistants who have decided to retire and move on into civilian life. I want to thank them for their years of dedicated selfless service in providing the best medical care to Army soldiers and their families. I wish them the best of luck in their civilian careers.

CPT Michael Cartledge
MAJ Michael Davidson
LTC John Burdish
MAJ George Fisher
CPT Jesse Hall
CPT Lyle Lumsden
MAJ Robert Pawloski
CPT Samuel Verbeck
CPT Nick Salyer
CPT Derryl Herman
CPT Marcos James
CPT William Kirkland
CPT Ronald Eller
CPT Tony Sadler ♦

**Visit the Society of U.S. Army Flight
Surgeons' WebSite at:**

<http://www.entercomp.com/users/sousafs/>

LTC Brenda Mosley
Chief, SP Branch PERSCOM

Check out the AMSC home page at PERSCOM on line at:

<http://www.perscom.army.mil/OPamsc/index.htm>

The home page is a valuable source of information that will help you chart your course to the future.

Board Certification Pay

The Department of Defense authorizes SP officers who meet specific criteria to receive Board Certification Pay (BCP). BCP is awarded for certification beyond entry-level practice. In order to be eligible for BCP you must be an officer in the AMSC, a health care provider, have a post-baccalaureate degree in the provider's clinical specialty, and certified by a professional board in the officer's specialty.

Procedure: The officer must submit a DA Form 4187 and supporting documentation to their credentialing office. The DA 4187 should not go through post military personnel offices. The supporting documentation should include the following:

1. A copy of current certification document with expiration date
2. A copy of post-baccalaureate degree in a clinical specialty from the college or university

The credentialing office is responsible for verifying the post-baccalaureate degree in a clinical specialty, board certification, and expiration date of certification. The credentialing office and/or PERSCOM should consult with the appropriate Assistant Corps Chief to determine if the post-baccalaureate degree fulfills the clinical specialty requirement. After verification of the documents the credentialing office will prepare a memorandum with the DA4187 and supporting documentation to:

Commander
PERSCOM
ATTN: TAPC-OPH-SP
200 Stovall Street
Alexandria, VA 22332

The amount of pay received is based upon an officer's computed creditable service date. This date is not the BASD date (Basic Active Service Date) but an officer's HPPED date (health professions pay entry date), or the date that an officer became a qualified SP officer. Using this date the rates (paid on a monthly basis) are as follows:

Years of Creditable Service Monthly/Annual
(BASED on HPPED)

Less than 10	\$166.66/\$2000
10-12 years	\$208.33/\$2500
12-14 years	\$250.00/\$3000
14-18 years	\$333.33/\$3000
18 or more years	\$416.66/\$5000

Active Duty Service Obligations (ADSO)

Please review this section on our web page site. Waivers of ADSO will not be granted unless they meet the hardship criteria and can only be granted by the Commander of PERSCOM.

Recruiting

The AMSC is committed to having one SP officer assigned to each recruiting Brigade. In order to fulfill that commitment we are looking for 1LT(P)'s and CPT's to join the ranks of recruiters at the 3d BDE. Duty location will be at Ft. Knox. If interested, please contact MAJ Jaghab.

Readiness

On occasion we are tasked at PERSCOM to provide names of officers with particular language skills. If you are proficient in another language, take the DLAT (Defense Language Aptitude Test) and have the results annotated on your ORB. **Also, every officer should have a passport.** If

you are tasked to deploy on some humanitarian missions you must travel on a civilian passport.

Retiring or leaving active duty??

For officers separating from the service, your Career Management Individual File and DA Photo are available to you upon separation. If you are interested in obtaining your file, please request it in writing. Be sure to include a mailing address that you will be at upon separation. We can mail your file to you once you are no longer on the active roles. We maintain these files for approximately 6 months after your separation, and then they are properly disposed of.

Departure

After 9 years of dedicated service, Ms. Wendy Terrell will depart on 11 June 1999. Ms. Terrell has found an exciting job in the civilian sector as a benefits advisor for the elderly. We wish her the best of luck in her new endeavors.

With the departure of Ms. Terrell we will need your patience and understanding in the field. She schedules all of our military schools in addition to cutting all the RFOs. Systems are in place for back up until we can get a replacement on board.

Brenda F. Mosley
LTC, SP
Chief, AMSC-Branch PERSCOM
mosleyb@hoffman.army.mil
<http://www.perscom.army.mil/OPamsc/index.htm> ♦

***Congratulations
To
CPT Anne M. Albert
Recipient of
The 1999 Surgeon General's
Physician Assistant Recognition Award***

Book Review Hand Rehabilitation: A Quick Reference Guide & Review

Authors: Nancy Falkenstein & Susan Weiss-Lessard

Publisher: Mosby

Cost: \$44.95 (plus tax and shipping & handling – ends up at about \$55.00)

Book Review Submitted by MAJ Harrison-Weaver, C, OT, Fort Knox

This easy to read question and answer book is designed for both study and review. With 22 Contributing authors and 21 chapters, it covers a wide variety of topics to include the shoulder, fractures, arthritis, joint mobilization, tendon injuries, anatomy, modalities, splinting and much more! The book is filled with “clinical gems” compiled by therapists, physicians, and educators designed to help the reader remember important hand surgery and rehabilitation facts. It also contains hundreds of illustrations to make learning easier (for those of us who are visual learners).

The beginning of the book has a reference guide that allows the reader to quickly find any topic or term. From the common place to the interesting and unusual, this book has it. Each question in the book is followed by multiple choice answers. An explanation for the correct answer is given followed by references.

The end of the book contains a list of several hundred references. It also contains a 100-question test that one may use as a pre-test and/or a post-test. It is a valuable learning tool.

I recommend this book for anyone involved in upper extremity rehabilitation. I also recommend it for anyone attending the Upper Extremity Evaluation and Treatment Course. ♦

LTC Len Cancio
SP Program Manager

Aloha from Fort Sam Houston!

WebSite and Email Address Changes

The AMEDD Center and School has changed servers. My new WebSite address is:

<http://139.161.168.210/DHET/initial.htm>

I've made the change to Outlook from cmail.

My new email address is:

Leonard.Cancio@amedd.army.mil

My mailing address remains:

Commander

AMEDDC&S

ATTN MCCS-HEA (LTC Cancio)

1750 Greeley Rd Bldg 4011 Stop 7A

Fort Sam Houston TX 78234-6122

FY00 PPSCP

A **tentative** PPSCP schedule has been completed for FY00. However, because the FY00 schedule has not received final approval, I have not included it in this issue of the Medallion. The FY00 PPSCP schedule should be released by September '99. **Stay tuned to the DHET WebSite for updates!**

EM PA Basic Skills Course

I've received a number of calls regarding the Emergency Medicine PA Basic Skills Course. We have tentatively scheduled 6 increments of this course, 2 at Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma, Washington and 4 at Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Because of the number of applicants expected and the limited number of seats available, LTC Louis Smith, Chief, PA Section, will make attendee selection. Applications will not be accepted prior to 1 OCT 99. The final dates for each increment will be on my WebSite by September '99.

Army Medical Specialist Corps Long Term Health Education and/Training and Specialty Training for FY 99/Academic Year 00/01

The application deadline for the Fiscal Year 99/Academic Year 00/01 AMSC LTHET

selection board has been extended to **30 July 99**. Contact LTC Cancio immediately if you desire consideration for this board. All previous remarks regarding eligibility, program selection, and application procedures apply. Copies of the original message may be obtained at:

<http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/DHET/splthet99.htm>

Contact LTC Cancio at:

DSN 471-9428, COM (210) 295-9428

FAX: DSN 471-2832, COM (210) 295-9428

Email: Leonard.Cancio@amedd.army.mil

Active Duty Service Obligations (ADSO)

There has been some confusion regarding the requirement to complete ADSOs prior to attending LTHET. All ADSOs from previous educational opportunities must be completed prior to the start date of a new LTHET opportunity.

Requests for Waiver

Any Requests for Waiver must be completed in memorandum format, thru your respective AOC Chief, to the Chief, Army Medical Specialist Corps. Waivers may be submitted to LTC Cancio, who will see that they are forwarded to the appropriate AOC Chief.

Degree Completion Following LTHET Opportunities

Applicants for Master's Degree or Ph.D. must be sure that they can complete their program requirements and be eligible for graduation within the time allotted for their education. Extension requests are not likely to be granted! ♦

Check out our new look!
Visit the
Army Medical Specialist Corps
Home Page
at

<http://139.161.168.210/amsc/index.htm>

recognition for retiring members. While we may know the "effective retirement date" for a member we do not have visibility on MTF/Division/Department Ceremonies scheduled to recognize that member (which in many cases may be 90 days earlier). Again I ask the **senior** AMSC to notify this office of any planned events. We will make every effort to provide the Corps Recognition for presentation at this event. For senior members, we make every effort to have either the Assistant Corps Chief or myself present if possible. But again we need your help. Give us as much lead time as possible. *Our Corps Members have served well and we need to provide the appropriate THANKS to them!*

Since the last Medallion I've had the opportunity to visit several areas with either an Assistant Corps Chief or SGM Carolyn Miller. These places have included Germany, Ft. Benning, GA, Ft. Jackson, SC, Ft. Bragg, NC, Ft. Bliss, TX, Cannon AFB, NM, Ft. Riley, KS, FORSCOM (Ft. McPherson, GA), and Ft. Hood, TX. **I can never thank you all enough for the time and effort in organizing our visits.** We appreciate the great escort officers assigned to us, the fun social events frequently planned, the AMSC briefings and the scheduled command courtesy visits. We learn so much from these visits. We really enjoy getting to know each of you better. These visits help us to better understand both yours and the Corps needs. **My thanks and appreciation for all you do.** ♦

Duty-Honor-Country. Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be. They are your rallying points: to build courage when courage seems to fail; to regain faith when there seems to be little cause for faith; to create hope when hope becomes forlorn.

*General Douglas MacArthur
Address to U.S. Military Academy cadets and graduates,
12 May 1962*

Update from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center & School, Army Center of Excellence, Subsistence (ACES)

We are pleased to welcome SFC Toney Burgess, 91M who arrived from Fort Bragg in March. CPT Sarah Flash obtained Certification as a Certified Specialist in Pediatrics.

Some recent highlights:

Natick is working with OTSG and the AMEDDC&S on the Medical Enhancement Diet (MED) ration module. ACES' project puts the MED complement into a Configured Container Load or "MED Strat-Pack". ACES will be evaluating distribution of rations and the Strat-Pack concept on the battlefield at Roving Sands at Fort Bliss in June.

During the 3rd Quarter 1999, ACES Quality Assurance Division will host the first annual Army-developed core menu. Representatives from MACOMs will work in conjunction with ACES to develop a highly acceptable, cost effective and nutritious menu utilizing the variety of new food items available to food service personnel through prime vendor. This menu will replace the 42-Day Cycle Menu currently available.

The Directorate of Training (DOT) has increased participation with industry/academia to learn and benefit from their experiences and educational programs. Some partnerships include International Food Service Executives Organization (IFSEA), Culinary Institute of America (CIA), and the National Restaurant Association (NRA) Educational Foundation. DOT is working with the CIA on a pilot project for a distance learning package for military cooks to enhance training and provide continuing education towards Chef Certification, including module on Healthy Cooking Techniques. The Food Service Management Course is seeking ProMgmt Certification through NRA. Also

initiated this past year was the NCO Food Service Training With Industry Program through James Madison University/Sodexo Marriott.

Nutrition continues to be an integral part of all courses conducted at the Quartermaster Center & School from AIT through the Combined Logistics Captain's Career Course. Additionally, nutrition has been incorporated into all Marine courses. Distance learning is fast becoming a forerunner for training. This past quarter, several distance learning classes were broadcast via Tele-training Network (TNET) to 92Gs at installations in CONUS. Classes conducted included nutrition, training on the Modern Burner Unit (MBU), sanitation and marketing.

For information on rations, training or ACES, visit our WebSite at <http://132.159.126.30/quartermaster/aces/> or contact CPT Flash at flashs@lee.army.mil ♦

News from OT Fort Jackson

The Occupational Therapy staff at Fort Jackson has the unique opportunity to train in their combat role almost daily. We provide mental health services to Soldiers in Training who are temporarily assigned to Ft Jackson's Physical Training and Rehabilitation Platoon (PTRP). These trainees have sustained injuries during Basic Training (BCT) or Advanced Individual Training (AIT) and are assigned to PTRP until able to resume full training without limitations. These soldiers are assigned to PTRP for as little as 2 weeks or as long as 6 to 12 months. Currently, there are close to 400 soldiers assigned to this unit.

Many of the PTRP soldiers are subjected to many of the same stress risk factors that soldiers experience in Operations Other Than War

(OOTW). These include, being in unfamiliar land, uncertainty of the duration of the tour, boredom, uncomfortable conditions and limited interaction with the local population. There are also feelings of failure for not completing training and no sense of ownership or role in a common military mission. Therefore, OT's role at PTRP is based on the OT's combat stress control (CSC) role and theoretical foundation.

The basic tenants utilized in the CSC unit include: Proximity (soldiers are kept at Ft Jackson vs. going home or staying in the hospital), Immediacy (soldiers are seen by OT upon arrival to the unit), Expectancy (they are referred to as trainees vs patients and sessions are based on the expectancy that they will return to training), Simplicity (short, simple, non-mysterious treatment), Mission Focused (work therapy programs have been developed to provide a role and sense of purpose), and Unit Cohesion (activities which require team participation and team building).

OT sessions are activity-based groups addressing stress and anger management through role playing scenarios of situations common at PTRP. Other group activities include: researching and presenting information on their AIT or next duty station, reviewing how to get promoted and the promotion process, gaining information on their MOS, group problem solving tasks and exploring military benefits. The trainees are given a self-rating sheet at the end of each session to identify their stress level and determine how they rate themselves on motivation and ability to complete BCT. The OT staff reviews these forms, reviews the trainee's past self-appraisals and provides more individualized interventions for those soldiers identified as high risk for not completing the PTRP program. OT sees those trainees who appear at significant risk of not completing the PTRP program based on his or her rating on an individual basis.

OT has been providing support to PTRP for over

15 months. When OT began providing services at this unit there were 40 soldiers. These were soldiers who had been injured and were given the option to be discharged or go to PTRP. As of November 1998, soldiers no longer have the option. ALL injured soldiers who cannot train go to PTRP. So, the unit is definitely at risk for discipline and motivational problems. We are planning to increase our role at the unit and have asked the 528th Medical Detachment (CSC) at Fort Bragg to utilize their expertise to review our current program and offer suggestions for changes and improvements. Overall, the program has been a benefit to the OT clinic as we are regularly utilizing the principles and theories of the CSC. ♦

Discussions on The Knowledge Management Network

or

How to avoid becoming roadkill on the Information Superhighway

Note: This article was submitted by LTC Tim Flynn, PT Branch, AMEDDC&S. LTC Flynn's target audience was the physical therapy community; however, some of the information may be of use to all individuals using the KMN, regardless of your AOC.

In today's world of ever increasing knowledge and technology, mastering the use of information is critical for success. Regardless of the discipline, the integration of information technology with professional practice will be considered a requisite job skill. As students, clinicians, scientists, and educators, we have distinct needs for convenient and efficient management of the vast amounts of information that is exchanged in the learning process. To this end, we are participating in an Internet based project called The Knowledge Management Network (KMN).

The KMN is an AMEDDC&S sponsored web site created to provide widespread and easy access to professional and educational information. There are currently various levels of development with the most common being a "community". A community represents a collection of persons (that's us) sharing a mission, collaborating among themselves to achieve that mission and both contributing to and relying upon knowledge from others within the community.

One of the most useful features within the community is the *WebBoard Discussion Forums (or Discussions)*. Essentially, this functions as a bulletin board providing the capability to post, read, and reply to messages. There is even a chat feature allowing multiple users to participate in real-time conferences. To quote, "***Here you find the opportunity to contribute your ideas (and, get feedback from peers and subject matter experts), ask for help on interesting challenges from your peers, discuss issues relevant to your work and the Army, and contribute to the lessons you have learned.***"

It is important to understand that access to the various discussions is under the control of the "Community Manager", LTC Tim Flynn. Discussion may be open to all those registered in the community, to only the faculty, or only the students, etc. In fact, anyone not registered by the Community Manager in a particular discussion will not even have that discussion presented as a choice on his or her screen.

Purpose of the WebBoard Discussions:

1. Provide an efficient and convenient method for disseminating information and collaborating with distant users (intradepartment, school, clinical sites).
2. Provide a large pool of expertise (all affiliated PTs) to answer questions, stimulate thought

and encourage knowledge sharing.

3. Create a record of posted information that is retrievable at the convenience of the user.
4. Minimize redundancy when addressing issues that may be of interest to many users.
5. Provide a method to practice and improve written communication skills while involving all staff in the discussion process.
6. Provide a method for posting and conveniently retrieving attachments such as documents and images.
7. Provide convenient long-term access (through archives) to resources from the various subject areas.
8. Provide subject oriented real time chat by numerous users.

Rules

Users must use real names; no anonymity.

1. Questions and messages should be posted according to conference subjects.
2. When providing information or answers to specific questions of fact, messages should be referenced.
3. Use appropriate courtesy; no personal attacks (flaming) are permitted.

The various discussions provide areas for interaction on a variety of topics. These discussions can be edited and new ones added at any time. If you detect a need for a new discussion, contact LTC Flynn at ltc.timothy.flynn@cs.amedd.army.mil.

In order to make use of this medium; we must get everyone registered. Go to the Knowledge Management Network web site: <http://kmn.army.mil>, click on **Register as A New**

User and follow the onscreen directions to register. Once registered, go to the "KMN Communities". You will need to provide registration info again for the WebBoard but it is also self-explanatory. When done, drop-down menus will lead you from "Programs", to "US Army-Baylor University Graduate Program in Physical Therapy", to "Discussions". Keep checking for new information; contribute when appropriate, and if you have any problems or questions, contact LTC Flynn at ltc.timothy.flynn@cs.amedd.army.mil.

One example of the type of synergy this technology can create is found in the Physical Therapy Clinicians Discussions section of the KMN as described above. At the Advanced Spine Course held at Fort Sam Houston 03-07 May 99, participants were introduced to the possibilities of the KMN. Participants agreed they would like to develop a large database of outcomes for low back pain patients in uniformed service physical therapy clinics. A data collection spreadsheet was prepared and posted to the KMN while everyone watched how simple that process is. Participants left the course determined to download the spreadsheet at their clinics, enter data and post it back to the KMN. In this way, with many PTs collaborating simultaneously, we can develop a large data set in a relatively short period of time.

Another exciting development evolved from the demonstration at the Advanced Spine Course. CPT Deydre Teyhen returned to WRAMC and posted several excellent patient handouts on Monday morning after the course. You can view these documents in the same discussion group under the heading "Stabilization Programs." More importantly, you can download these word processing files, complete with patient instructions and beautiful scanned images, and edit them for use in your own clinic. Think of the possibilities: a repository where we can upload all of our best work (patient handouts, post-op protocols, clinic SOPs, etc.) for instantaneous access by all our colleagues. This is a dream come true. All it needs is participants! ♦

US Army Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Residency

Our second class of residents graduated in December 1998. The graduates and their assignments were LTC Jeremy Hutton, C, PT, Fort Leonard Wood, MO, MAJ John Stang, Asst C, PT, Tripler AMC, and CPT Dave Gohdes, Asst C, PT, William Beaumont AMC. LTC Tim Flynn was the guest speaker on evidence-based practice at the graduation ceremony. Also congratulations to the residents for passing the ABPTS, Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist Examination!

The residents presented and completed their research on 7 December 1998, entitled Physical Therapy Treatment Effectiveness for OA of the Knee: A Prospective, Randomized, Controlled Comparison of Supervised Clinical Exercise and Manual Therapy Procedures verses a Home Exercise Program. An abstract of their work follows.

Relatively little work has been done to compare the benefits of supervised clinical rehabilitative treatment for orthopedic conditions to interventions designed for patients to implement in their homes without supervision. With this purpose in mind, 88 subjects with osteoarthritis were randomly assigned to a clinical treatment group or a home exercise group. The clinical treatment group attended eight sessions in a physical therapy clinic over a four week period, receiving supervised exercise and individualized manual therapy, supplemented with a home exercise prescription intended for use between clinic sessions. The home exercise group received verbal and written instructions for the same home exercise prescription initially, with reinforcement of the instructions at a clinic visit two weeks later. The WOMAC scale was administered to all subjects at baseline, after four weeks, then again at eight weeks during a follow-up visit. Both groups had significant improvements in pain, stiffness and dysfunction as measured by the WOMAC

scale. However, improvement in the clinical treatment group was markedly better (52%) than in the home exercise group (29%). Improvements in both groups were still measurable at the eight-week measurement after a month of no clinical intervention.

As of July 1999, CPT Matt Garber will be the director of the residency. The residency class of 2000 begins 6 July 1999. This class is the first quad-service program. The residents are MAJ Dan Rendeiro (Army), LT Jake Magel (PHS), LCDR Barbara Butler (Navy), CAPT Julie Cote (Air Force). Their research project is titled, Identification of Patients with Acute Low Back Pain who respond best to Sacroiliac Intervention. The residents are already busy doing the literature review! The next residency class starts July 2001. Your application is due to LTHET (LTC Cancio) for the fall, 2000 selection board. Anyone interested may contact me directly at 210-916-2651 (LTC Stetts), or by cc:mail. ♦

***Congratulations
To
SPC Mendy Jones
Selected as "Soldier of the Month"
February, 1999
Fort Knox, MEDDAC***

*Let us have faith that right makes might, and
in that faith let us to the end dare to do our
duty as we understand it.*

*Abraham Lincoln
Speech at Cooper Union, NY
27 February 1859*

UNIFORMED SERVICES DINNER

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF AIR FORCE DIETETICS
1949 – 1999

SUNDAY, 17 OCTOBER 1999

1800 Cocktails –Cash Bar

1900 Dinner and Program

ANTHONY'S

3109 Peidmont Road
Atlanta, GA 30305
404-262-7379

MENU

Mixed Baby Greens Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette

Grilled Boneless Breast of Chicken and Grilled Shrimp
Sauteed with Mushrooms and Artichoke Hearts
in a Chardonnay Wine Sauce

Chef's Vegetable

Chef's Potato

Rolls and Butter

Anniversary Cake

Coffee, Tea, Decaffeinated Coffee

PRICE: \$35.00 (includes tax and gratuity)

RSVP BY 7 OCTOBER 1999

Dress will be Class A uniform for all military and semi-formal
(cocktail dress) for civilians and retirees

.....
Please mail your reservation along with your check for \$35.00 payable to Judy DeLaGarza to:
Lt Col Judith DeLaGarza, 6003 Woodlands Bluff, Morgantown, WV 26508
Phone: 304-598-0695 (home)

NAME: _____ RANK: _____

GUEST(S): _____ E-MAIL: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Please include email for updates on transportation

News from Nutrition Care WRAMC

The site visit for accreditation of the U.S. Military Dietetic Internship Consortium was conducted 22-25 May 99. The site visitors were very impressed with the program and indicated that it would become a model for similar dietetic internship programs accredited by the Commission on Accreditation/Approval for Dietetics Education (CAADE). The preliminary results indicate we exceeded all standards, however we will not receive the final report until December 1999. Congratulations to the entire faculty, staff, students, and affiliates for a job well done.

Fifteen soldiers from Nutrition Care, WRAMC and other hospitals in the North Atlantic Regional Medical Command provided food service support to soldiers participating in the NARMC semi-annual EFMB exercise held at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA. From 8-26 March 99. These soldiers provided excellent food service support for the soldiers and cadre participating in this training exercise. HOOAH!

The entire P&S Division will receive a much-needed facelift sometime in the near future. This renovation will improve many areas of P&S, but primarily the serverly will increase an additional 1900 square feet. We are currently reviewing the architectural drawings, which are 90% complete. If everything works as planned, the construction could begin as early as December 99.

We recently welcomed two new staff members to the NCD team: Ms. Cheryl Arnt, Pediatric Specialist and SFC Shelby Goodman, NCOIC, P&S Division. We also said farewell to SGT Newman and 1LT Koenig. Congratulations to the following individuals: CPT Wayne Kostolni and 1LT Koenig, promoted 1 May 99 to MAJ and CPT respectively. SFC Rohlf's was selected for promotion to MSG. Ms. Kathy Pratt became the first Civilian Registered Dietitian to complete the Army Management Staff College. CPT Sarah Flash from the NARMC successfully completed the certification exam for Pediatric Specialist. ♦

SAPA Poster Award

The Society of Army Physician Assistants held its first annual poster session at this year's SAPA Conference in Fayetteville NC. Congratulations to the winners!

- 1st Place - CPT Steve Salyer for his poster entitled *KMN for PA's*
- 2nd Place – CPT Rene Battista and CPT Steve Salyer for their poster entitled *Knowledge and use of Birth Control Methods in Active Duty Enlisted Medical Trainees*
- 3rd Place – 1LT David Hamilton for his poster entitled *Fox Bite Cluster in Hohenfels FRC Cause and Effect*

New Arrivals

Congratulations to CPT Jeremy Smith and his wife Lori on the birth of their son, Braden, born February 25, 1999

Congratulations to 1LT Kate Yancosek and her husband Barry on the birth of their son, Joshua, born May 15, 1999

Awards & Decorations

Go to the following WebSite for information on how to arrange your military awards and decorations:

<http://www.vocare.org/webmaster/awards.html>

Promotions

***Congratulations to the following officers promoted since
December 1998!***

To Colonel

Suzanne Chiang

To Lieutenant Colonel

Steven Hunte
Paula Rutan
Vicky Thomas
Louis Smith

To Major

Kenneth Abney
Juliann Chavez
Sonya Corum
Stephanie Daugherty
Roger Dougherty
Danny Jaghab
John Kent
Wayne Kostolni
Samuel Martin
Bobbi Phillips
Joanna Reagan
Daniel Rendeiro
Leslee Sanders
Celia Sukon
John Stang
Michael Voorhies

To Captain

Steven Anderson
Richard Bett
Steven Cowens
Michael Dilorenzo
Edward Eacrett
Frederick Foley
Leonard Gruppo
Billy Hansford
Haiddie Jugeta
Chad Koenig
Bogdan Langner
James McGinnis
Lucie Pryor-Cordes
David Rodriguez
Philip Semple
Donald Shipman
Joe Smith
Glenn Stanley
Jeffery Trigg
Paul Zahn

We also wish to congratulate those selected for...

Major

Anne Albert
Maria Bovill
Bryan Boyea
Colleen Burns
Nikki Butler
Rachel Evans
Kenneth Galfo
David Gohdes
Julie Graff
John Guardia
Daniel Jayne
James Kay
David Meyer
Anne Resty
Marybeth Salgueiro
Lori Sydes

Lieutenant Colonel

Martha Davis
Frances Finegan
Jane Freund
Ann Grediagin
Mary Laurin
Megan Mills
Linda Rowbotham
Theresa Schneider
Maria Worley

We apologize if we inadvertently left anyone off the list. If so, please submit corrections for the next Medallion. We regret we were unable to obtain a list of enlisted promotions to include in this issue. Enlisted promotions will appear in the next issue of the Medallion.

***Congratulations
To
Captain Sara Spielmann
Selected to serve as company commander
Fort Carson Medical Activity***

***Captain Spielmann assumed command
17 May 1999***

Special Recognition

Congratulations to Specialist M. Mallory for her two articles in the *Fort Sam Houston Leader*, dated 6 May 99.

Major John Stang would like to recognize the reception staff at the PT Clinic, TAMC to include Ms. Ethel Morgan, Ms. Michelle Wilf and Ms. Dolores Tinoso for their outstanding performance and customer-friendly approach. Major Stang credits his reception staff with improving provider-patient relations and decreasing the clinic no-show rate by 6%.

LTC Laura Kostner recently escorted the Secretary of the Army on a tour of the Mountain Post Wellness Center at Fort Carson. The Secretary noted the importance of programs such as the one at Fort Carson in promoting readiness and quality of life.

Congratulations to 2LT Nathan T. Boykin, PA-C whose article entitled, "Dermadilemma" was published in the February 1999 edition of the *Physician Assistant Journal*.

Congratulations to the NCD staff at Fort Sill for achieving the highest average score on the Spring APFT (among all sections in the hospital). Their average score was 267.4. ♦

On Freedoms Frontier

***We want to recognize all of
those SP officers and
enlisted personnel serving
in the Balkans. Your
contributions are
immeasurable. We salute
you and we wish you well.
Godspeed home!***

Please Give Us Your Opinion

Please take a moment to answer these questions regarding the Medallion.

1. What section(s) did you find most useful or informative?
2. What information was not included that you want to hear about?
3. What information was not useful or interesting to you?
4. Was the format easy to read?

Please send us your answers to these questions and additional comments via email to CPT Vickie Connolly at:
Vickie.Connolly@amedd.army.mil

Please remember that we rely on input from the field to compile this newsletter. If there are items of interest you wish to include please do so by sending them via email, preferably as a Microsoft Word attachment, to CPT Connolly. ♦